

## REMARKS

The Examiner's indication of allowability of claims 3-15, if rewritten in independent form including the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged and appreciated. New independent claim 28 includes features of claims 1 and 3. Accordingly, claim 28 and its dependent claims 29-40 are believed to be allowable.

Claims 16-22, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Sasaki et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited reference does not disclose or suggest a bidirectional switch connected to the common inspection input/output terminal, as now described in claim 16.

As shown in Fig. 10 of the subject application, the second switching elements each have an input/output terminal connected to a common inspection input/output terminal 10. A bidirectional switch including buffers 31 and 32 is connected to the common inspection input/output terminal. The control terminal of the buffer 32 is directly connected to a control terminal 34. The control terminal of the buffer 31 is also connected to the terminal 34 via an inverter 33. A controller 35 inputs a high level to the terminal 34 to make the inspection terminal 10 an input terminal, and inputs a low level to the terminal 34 to make the inspection terminal 10 an output terminal.

The Sasaki et al. reference discloses a display apparatus with an inspection circuit including switching elements Ty1-Ty4 having an input/output terminal with one end being connected to a common reference voltage Vcc and another end connected to a capacitor Cy1-Cy4 (as shown in Fig. 5). The Sasaki et al. reference, however, does not

disclose (or suggest) a bidirectional switch being connected to the common inspection input/output terminal as now described in claim 16. For this reason, claim 16 and its dependent claims 24-27 are allowable over Sasaki et al.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Aoki et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) a first inspection circuit which is constructed to be separated from the display circuit, as now recited in claim 1.

As shown in Fig. 1 of the subject application, the present invention includes a display circuit 103, a first inspection circuit 101, and a second inspection circuit 102 provided on one substrate. The first inspection circuit 101 is constructed to be separated from the display circuit 103 at a cutting line 121. After the inspection, the first inspection circuit 101 is cut off from the display circuit 102 at the cutting line 121. Then, as shown in Fig. 4, output lines  $Q_1$  to  $Q_n$  of the data driver 401 are connected to the data lines D1a to D3a of the display circuit 103 in unitizing the liquid crystal display device.

The Aoki et al. reference discloses that if a part of the display area SR remains unused, the testing TFTs may be formed in the unused part of the display area SR (see page 11, paragraph 108). In other words, the Aoki et al. reference merely teaches that the testing TFTs may be formed outside or inside of the display area SR. The reference, however, does not disclose or suggest that the first inspection circuit is constructed to be separated from the display circuit, as now described in claim 1. For this reason, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-15 are allowable over Aoki.

Claims 23, 24 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Sasaki et al. in view of Aoki et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons given with respect to claim 16, from which these claims depend, and because of the additional features described in these claims.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner should contact Applicants' undersigned attorney if a telephone conference would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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